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LETTER DATED 26 MARCH 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

My Government would wish to bring to the attention of the members of the Security Council the continuing aggression against and attacks on the territory of Croatia, committed by the Serbian insurgents in the United Nations protected areas or the Serbian paramilitary units from the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the annex to the present letter I have the honour to submit a detailed overview of the events that occurred in the period from mid-March until today.

I request your kind assistance in distributing this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative

Annex

Military activities against the territory of Croatia

15-26 March 1993

In the period from 15 March to 26 March 1993, there were 198 attacks by Serbian forces against the territory of Croatia. On 21 occasions the enemy attacked with small-arms fire. On 72 occasions enemy attacks were executed with artillery fire, and on 92 occasions with mortar fire. In the above-mentioned period 13 times Croatian territory was attacked with multiple rocket launchers of the "Oganj" and "Orkan" type. The attacks resulted in 3 fatalities and 27 substantial injuries. Consequently severe material damage was inflicted upon the towns of Zadar, Biograd, Vodice, Sibenik, Gospic, Karlovac and Dubrovnik.

The following assessments depict some of the most severe attacks during that period.

15 March 1993

Djakovo: from 0835 until 0845 hours, 10 cannon shells were dropped on the city and its surroundings. By 1145 five more shells had been lanced.

Komarevo: from 1400 until 1500 hours, 30 mortar shells (82-mm) and 20 tromblone shells were fired. At 1430 incalculable rounds of sniper fire were also used.

Karlovac: at 1407 hours, enemy arsonists set civilian homes aflame in Grubesici.

Karlovac: at 1425 hours, enemy arsonists set civilian homes aflame in Goljaci.

Biograd: at 1428 hours, six 155-mm shells were discharged from howitzers.

16 March 1993

Zupanja: at 0850 hours, enemy forces launched four artillery shells on the village of Rajevo. Consequently there was severe material damage.

Sibenik: at 1010 hours, one anti-tank hand-grenade launcher was deployed from village of Vujko. At 1715, from the village of Travica, 40-mm anti-aircraft shells ("Bofors") were fired. At 2305, five 120-mm mortar shells were fired again from the direction of the village of Travica.

Village of Radisic (Sibenik): numerous howitzer shells were fired at 1345 hours from the direction of the village of Gardijan. At 1425 hours, six 120-mm mortar shells were fired again from the village of Gardijan. From 2100 until 2105 hours a total of seven 120-mm mortar shells were fired from the direction of the village of Vujko.

Village of Dubravice (Sibenik): at 1350 hours, two missiles were fired from a multiple rocket launcher, from the direction of Kistanje. Then, at 1745 hours, five mortar shells were accounted for, coming from the direction of Gardijana.

These assaults were followed by several more rounds of 120-mm mortar shells, this time from the direction of the village of Vujko. Finally, at 2130 hours, another series of mortar fire fell on the village of Dubravice, this time deployed from Dobrijevici.

17 March 1993

Village of Kinjacka: at 1200 hours, enemy forces from the village of Brdani opened fire on a motorized vehicle, resulting in two fatalities, one serious injury and severe damage to the vehicle. The passengers of the vehicle were members of the Croatian Army from Kinjacka.

Village of Miljevci: at 1300 hours, 30 120-mm mortar shells and 10 155-mm howitzer shells were fired, resulting in the physical injury of a police officer from Sibenik and costly material damage.

Village of Dubravka (Dubrovnik): from 1300 hours until 1320 hours a total of 15 mortar shells were fired upon civilians.

18 March 1993

Village of Damjanici (Sibenik): at 0900 hours enemy fire was received from the direction of Travice. Between 1155 and 1230 hours approximately 15 82-mm mortar shells were fired first from Vujka and then from Travice. At 1735 hours, anti-aircraft artillery fire came from Vujka. Within 10 minutes, at 1745 hours, another attack by anti-aircraft weapons was launched from Travice, this time with a multiple 20-mm cannon. Yet another attack pounded the civilians of Damjanici at 1920 hours, when two bazooka rockets were launched at them from Vujka.

Village of Slano (Dubrovnik): at 1030 hours, six 130-mm cannon shells were fired.

Village of Dubravice (Sibenik): at 1045 hours, five 120-mm mortar shells were fired.

Village of Gacelezi (Sibenik): at 1100 hours 12 tank shells were fired.

Village of Grabovica (Sibenik): between 1930 and 1948 hours, 11 120-mm mortar shells and 7 tank shells struck the inhabitants of Grabovica.

19 March 1993

Drnis: from 0600 hours, enemy forces spent the entire day pounding the city with artillery from howitzer devices and mortar fire. Over 1,000 shells were accounted for.

Village of Rajevo (Zupanja): at 1020 hours, 10 tank shells were fired.

Village of Podgajci (Zupanja): at 1120 hours, 10 tank shells were fired.

Sibenik: at 1915 hours, one tank grenade was fired on the city. The civilians were alerted to take cover in shelters and shortly after 10 "Orkan" missiles were hurled at them.

20 March 1993

Sunja (Sisak): from 0600 hours, in the course of the day enemy fire came from the left side of the Sava river, near Gradusa. Attacks came in the form of 60-mm and 82-mm mortar shells, tromblone grenades, and small-arms fire, launched against the Croatian troops stationed there.

Village of Gornje Mokrice (Sisak): at 1300 hours, enemy assaults started with machine-gun and sniper fire against stationed Croatian forces in Gornje Mokrice. Consequently sniper attacks seriously wounded a member of the Croatian Army.

21 March 1993

Village of Ribnik (Gospic): from 1740 until 1930 hours, civilians were under attack by numerous 120-mm mortar shells and three tank shells, in addition to 155-mm howitzer fire.

Village of Opasac (Dubrovnik): at 1000 hours, two 130-mm tank shells were fired upon the city.

Village of Konavli (Dubrovnik): at 1000 hours, four 130-mm tank shells were fired upon the city.

Village of Zupa Dubrovacka (Dubrovnik): at 1015 hours, 10 130-mm shells were fired upon the city.

Village of Tvrdavica (Osijek): at 1805 hours, 13 mortar shells were fired upon the city.

Village of Garakusa (Sibenik): at 1828 hours, 13 mortar shells were fired upon the city.

Sibenik: at 1955 hours, six "Orkan" type rockets fell on the east side of the city.

22 March 1993

Sibenik: at 0035 hours, 10 anti-aircraft missiles and 10 tank shells (130-mm) were fired upon the city.

Village of Vodice (Sibenik): at 0040 hours, 15 shells fell on the city.

Village of Pirovac (Sibenik): several howitzer shells and five tank shells fell upon the city from 0040 until 0045 hours. More attacks followed from 2150 until 2235 hours, which provided evidence of 10 more howitzer shells.

Village of Lipovac (Vinkovci): at 1100 hours, the enemy launched incalculable attacks against the stationed Croatian Army, using small-arms fire and small artillery. This resulted in the death of one member of the Croatian Army.

Village of Ribnik: from 1330 until 1430 hours, a total of 25 tank shells and 120-mm mortar shells bombarded the civilians. Another attack was launched at 2220 hours and five more mortar shells were accounted for.

Gospic: from 1332 until 2143 hours, enemy forces attacked the city of Gospic. The following artillery was found pursuant to the attack: 12 tank shells, 24 howitzer shells and 9 mortar shells.

Village of Bilaj (Gospic): from 1315 until 2215 hours, attacks were launched from the Barleta, Rogica, Vrepca and Village of Vrebca regions, all against the city of S. Bilaj. Pursuant to the attacks 44 120-mm mortar shells, 2 tank shells and 2 82-mm mortar shells fell upon the city.

Sibenik: at 1355 hours, five "Orkan" type missiles from Trbounja assaulted the inhabitants, leaving 23 people gravely injured and resulting in serious material loss and damage.

Village of Klisa (Gospic): the city of Klisa and its residents were assailed by enemy forces in Divosela, from 1415 until 2105 hours. The attacks were launched with 82-mm mortar shells, hand-held fire-arms and small artillery in addition to anti-aircraft missiles. There were 21 mortar shells accounted for, following the attack, as well as incalculable amounts of the above-mentioned artillery.

Village of Gaceleze (Sibenik): at 1735 hours, 30 82-mm mortar shells were fired upon the city.

Biograd: at 1840 hours, 20 tank shells were fired at the city. Two hours after the initial attack eight "Oganj" type rockets were launched at the orthopaedic hospital.

Vodice: at 1945 hours, eight "Oganj" type rockets fell on the city, resulting in grave tangible losses.

Pirovac: at 1955 hours, six "Oganj" type rockets fell on the city, resulting in grave tangible losses.

23 March 1993

Dubrovnik: at 1210 hours, 15 howitzer shells were fired upon the city. Another attack was launched at 1323 hours, firing 19 more howitzer shells. At 1525 hours, the enemy forces launched yet another attack against the historic city of Dubrovnik, shelling the city with three more howitzer shells.

24 March 1993

Zupanja: at 0645 hours, there was a general alert in the city and its surroundings. Artillery attacks were made on surrounding villages and several 120-mm mortars fell on Rajevo Selo and Posavske Podgajce.

Zadar: at 1420 hours, four "Orkan" missiles were launched from the region of Muskovci village on Razanac. Three civilians suffered injuries.

Sibenik: at 1242 hours, four "Orkan" missiles were launched on the centre of the city, causing considerable material damage. One person suffered injuries.

Sinj: at 1715 hours, there was artillery fire on the surrounding villages. A general alert was sounded for the territory of the region. Mortars (120-mm) and tank artillery were used.

Solin: at 2110 hours, four "Orkan" missiles with cluster warheads fell on Konjsko and Blace. There was no sustainable material damage, but the surrounding roads had to be closed for 24 hours in order to permit the demining.

25 March 1993

Zadar: at 1505 hours, four 155-mm howitzer grenades were fired from Zemunik Gornji on the centre of the city. A general alert was sounded. Another attack was launched at 1700 hours, with additional five 155-mm shells that equally fell in the historic centre of the city.

Biograd na moru: at 1600 hours, from the positions in Kakma, an artillery attack was launched on the town of Biograd na moru and the surrounding villages of Rastane, Turanj and St. Filip and Jakov. The enemy used artillery and 120-mm mortar ordnance: in total some 25 grenades fell on various parts of the region, causing considerable material damage.

Sibenik: at 1905 hours, two mortar shells were fired from Cista Mala on Dragisici. At 2005 hours, an intensive mortar attack was launched towards the villages Pakovo Selo and Miljevci. At 2055 hours, a Serbian tank opened artillery fire towards the positions of the Croatian Army in Grbovici, Dragisici and Gacelezi.